

AGN. NO.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR SHEILA KUEHL

April 28, 2015

Water is a critical resource in Los Angeles County and there are many significant water issues that government agencies are currently addressing. Two key issues are the quality of stormwater and the region's decreasing water supplies.

Since 1990, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board has been issuing stormwater permits to all the municipalities in Los Angeles County in an effort to improve stormwater quality. Each successive permit has been increasingly stringent with a goal of decreasing the pollutants that negatively impact our rivers, lakes, and oceans.

Currently, municipalities throughout the County are working together to develop plans that will identify numerous projects and programs to improve water quality and meet the water quality regulations. Many of these municipalities are faced with technical and financial limitations to implement their projects to meet these water quality goals.

In addition, for the past four years, the State of California, and more specifically

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Los Angeles County, has faced a serious drought. Critical reductions in water supplies have resulted in increased efforts among numerous agencies, including the County of Los Angeles, to conserve more water.

On February 26, 2015, Senator Ed Hernandez introduced SB 485, which would give the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts (LACSD) the legal authority to assist local municipalities throughout Los Angeles County in stormwater and dry weather runoff management projects. SB 485 would supplement the existing powers of the LACSD and allow other agencies, at their cost, to hire LACSD to assist in the treatment, construction, operation, and management of projects that will help the agencies address their stormwater and dry weather runoff concerns and regulatory obligations.

This new authority gives local governments in Los Angeles County a critical new tool in addressing the drought, and stormwater and dry weather runoff quality.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors SUPPORT SB 485 (Hernandez), and instruct the Chief Executive Officer to prepare and send a five-signature letter to Members of the State Legislature communicating the Board's support of the bill.

S:MCC/SB 485 (Hernandez)